



Agency Priority Goal | Action Plan | FY 23 - Q2

Resilience and Food Security

Goal Leader(s):

Dina Esposito, Acting Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security

Goal Overview

Goal statement

- Facilitate inclusive, resilient growth in the agriculture and food system to sustainably reduce poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition. By September 30, 2023, annual sales by assisted farms and firms in the agriculture and food system will exceed the pre-pandemic level of \$3 billion.

Problem to Be Solved

- The goal of the Feed the Future initiative is to sustainably reduce poverty, hunger, and malnutrition.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and Putin's war in Ukraine threaten to erase years of food security progress. As a result of the pandemic, extreme poverty is rising globally for the first time in two decades, while global inequality is also on the rise. The World Bank estimates that 678 million people were living in extreme poverty in 2022, and an estimated 89 million more people were living in poverty than expected pre-pandemic. In addition, the World Bank projects limited progress on extreme poverty over the coming decade, estimating that more than 568 million will remain extremely poor as of 2030.

What Success Looks Like

- Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth provides many pathways to poverty reduction, generating jobs and reliable incomes directly through the agriculture and food system and indirectly through multiplier effects across the broader economy, and increases access to safe and nutritious foods.
- In addition to the goals laid out later in the APG, Feed the Future will make critical contributions to 20 percent reductions in poverty and stunting over the next five years in the areas where Feed the Future works.

**[FAO Early Modeling Estimate \(March 25, 2022\)](#)*

Goal target(s)

In the table below, please repeat the key metrics included in the goal statement (previous slide) that will be used to track progress.

Please update this column each quarter.

Achievement statement		Key indicator(s)	Quantify progress			Frequency
By...	We will...	Name of indicator	Target value (End of FY23)	Starting value (Start of FY22)	Current value	Update cycle
9/30/23	Contribute to increasing annual sales by assisted farms and firms in the agriculture and food system above pre-pandemic levels of \$3 billion	Value of annual sales of producers and firms in the agriculture and food system receiving USG assistance	\$3,100,000,000*	\$1,683,248,584 ¹	NA	Final actual available in Q3
09/30/23	Contribute to agriculture-related financing.	Average value per capita of agriculture-related financing received by females as a percentage of the value per capita of agriculture-related financing received by males as a result of USG assistance	170%*	N/A ²	NA	Final actual available in Q3
09/30/23	Contribute to the number of FTF evaluations	Number of Feed the Future (FTF) Evaluations Completed per quarter	2	3 ³	1	One week after the end of last quarter.

**The FY 23 target is preliminary

¹ Starting value for this indicator is from FY 2018

² Starting value for this indicator will be from FY 2022 once final values are received.

³ Starting value for this indicator is from FY 2021 Q4

Goal Team

RFS Front Office

- Dina Esposito, Acting Assistant to the Administrator, RFS
- Mia Beers, Deputy Assistant to the Administrator, RFS
- Rob Bertram, Chief Scientist

RFS Center for Agriculture Led Growth

- Jennifer Tikka, Director
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- Julie March, Production Systems Division Chief
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RFS Office of Country Support

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- Lauren Ruth, Africa Division Chief
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- Jami Montgomery, Acting Director
- Jessie Anderson, Acting Resilient Communities and Systems Division Chief
- Kathryn Stahlberg, Acting Resilient Livelihoods and Markets Division Chief

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- Sam Huston, Water and Sanitation Technical Services Division Chief

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- Amy Sink Davies, Director
- Chris Hillbruner, Analysis and Learning Division Chief
- Chris Shepherd-Pratt, Policy Division Chief
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Program Office

- George Rowland, Acting Director
- Chivon Anderson, Budget Execution Division Chief
- Bonita Jones, Strategy Division Chief
- Meredith Soule, Inclusive Development Division Chief

Goal Strategies

Key Strategies:

- Strengthen inclusive, productive, and profitable food and agriculture systems, especially for small-scale producers and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs);
- Strengthen and expand access to markets and trade, increase market participation, and increase movement, availability, and affordability of agricultural inputs, goods, services, and safe, nutritious foods;
- Increase representation, employment, and entrepreneurship, especially for the landless, extreme poor, women, youth, and marginalized or underrepresented groups; and
- Drive sustainable productivity increases while promoting nature-positive impacts on natural resources and the environment.

Goal Strategies

External factors:

- **Climate Change:** Climate change is both a stressor and risk multiplier, leading to increased crop failures, water insecurity, depletion of natural resources, and more frequent and extreme weather events. Farmers face higher temperatures that stress crops and livestock, as well as make agricultural labor more difficult and dangerous. In addition, there are longer droughts, unpredictable rains, and warming oceans affecting fish stocks. Agricultural and food systems contribute approximately 21-37 percent of global human-caused greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. We have mainstreamed evidence-based climate adaptation approaches across the refreshed Global Food Security Strategy 2022-2026's (GFSS-R) three objectives to mitigate this threat and accelerate and protect progress.
- **COVID-19 Pandemic's Long-Term Effects:** In addition to the immediate health repercussions of COVID-19 itself and its burden on overwhelmed health systems, the secondary effects of COVID-19 include disruptions to the key components of the food system that allow for continuous, sustainable access to nutritious foods. Efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 have disrupted access to food, compromised nutrition, eliminated jobs and shut down entire sections of economies, including agriculture. COVID-19 pushed 97 million people into extreme poverty in 2020, and is deepening the gender poverty gap as women's livelihoods are disproportionately impacted. We will use our existing Feed the Future infrastructure to mitigate the near, medium and long term secondary economic impacts of the pandemic by ensuring food and market systems continue to function.
- **Conflict:** Conflict has become one of the largest drivers of food crises worldwide especially in countries affected by major crises, including conflict and climate shocks. Much of our food security programming takes place in areas characterized by tension among and within social and socioeconomic groups, social marginalization, and in some cases, outright violence. All of these factors mutually affect each other. We are emphasizing integration of conflict-sensitive, peace-building and social cohesion strategies across programming in these areas.

Goal Strategies

External factors cont.

- **Putin's war in Ukraine:** The impacts of Putin's war are being felt far beyond Ukraine's borders, with huge implications for global food security and nutrition, especially for countries already vulnerable to rising hunger. The conflict continues to raise concerns due to reduced food and fertilizer supplies and subsequent price increases in these commodities, along with fuel. If not mitigated, these price increases on food and commodities will likely diminish crop productivity and reduce incomes, further undermining families' abilities to access nutritious food. In this scenario, this could result in significant increases in global poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. We will leverage the Feed the Future initiative to respond and blunt the impacts of the crisis in Ukraine.

Goal Strategies

Goal: Sustainably reduce global poverty, hunger and malnutrition

Objective 1

Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth

Objective 2

Strengthened resilience among people and systems

Objective 3

A well-nourished population especially among women and children

Inclusion, equality and equity are essential to achieving these objectives.

Intermediate Results (IR)

IR 1

Strengthened inclusive food and agriculture systems that are productive and profitable

IR 2

Strengthened and expanded access to markets and trade

IR 3

Increased employment and entrepreneurship

IR 4

Increased sustainable productivity

IR 5

Improved proactive risk reduction, mitigation and management

IR 6

Improved adaptation to and recovery from shocks and stresses

IR 7

Increased consumption of safe and nutritious foods

IR 8

Increased use of direct nutrition interventions and services

IR 9

More hygienic household and community environments

Cross-Cutting Intermediate Results (IR)

CC IR 1

Strengthened global commitment to investing in food security

CC IR 2

Increased gender equality and female empowerment

CC IR 3

Increased youth empowerment and livelihoods

CC IR 4

Enhanced climate change adaptation and mitigation

CC IR 5

Improved natural resource management

CC IR 6

Improved water resources management

CC IR 7

More effective governance, policy and institutions

CC IR 8

Improved human, organizational and system performance

CC IR 9

Enhanced integration of conflict sensitivity, peacebuilding and social cohesion

CC IR 10

Enhanced integration of digital technologies

Complementary Results

Long-term food security efforts benefit from and contribute to complementary work streams that promote:

Economic growth in complementary sectors

Healthy ecosystems and biodiversity

Stable, democratic societies that respect human rights and the rule of law

A reduced impact of disease

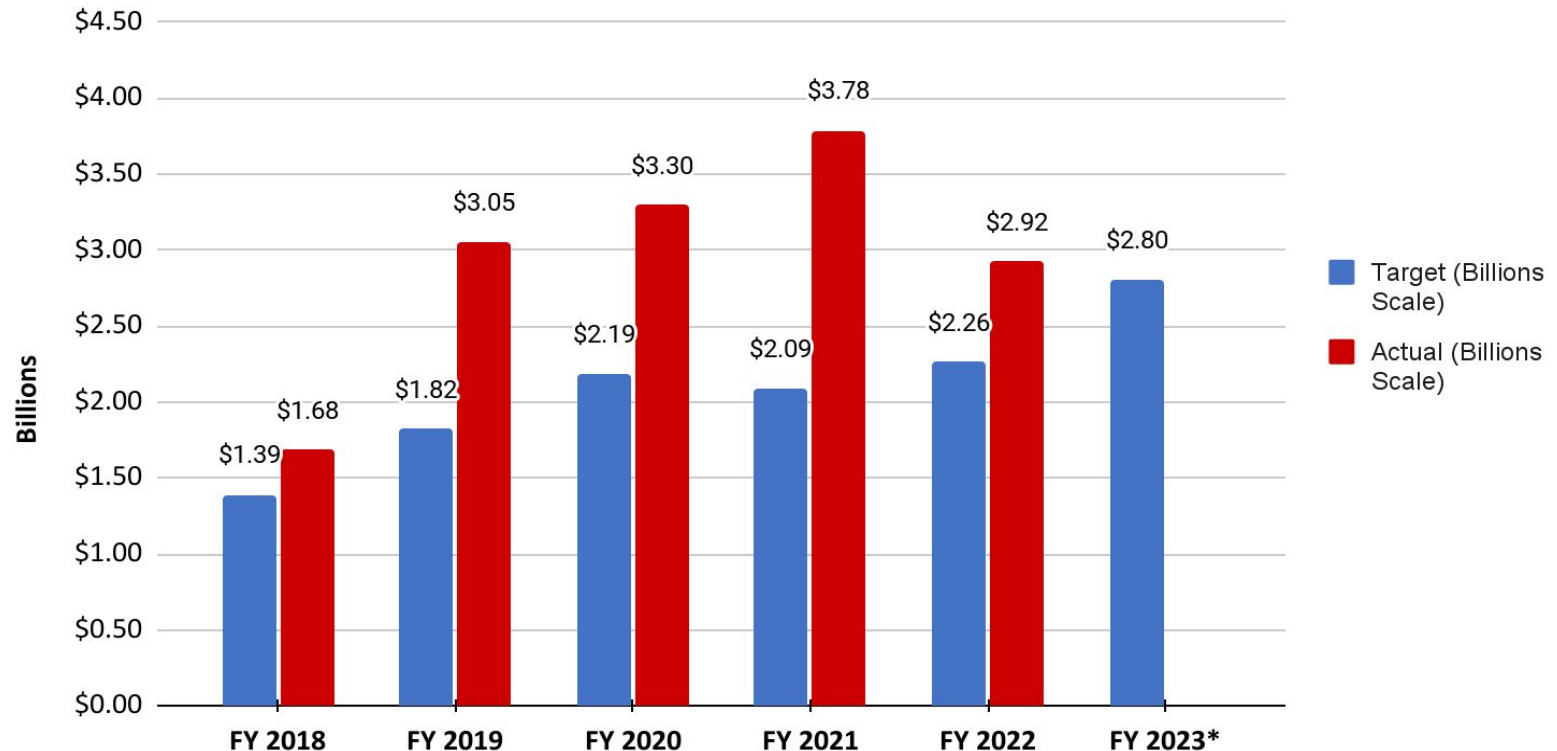
Well-educated populations

Source: U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy 2022-2026.

https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Global-Food-Security-Strategy-FY22-26_508C.pdf

Key indicators

Value of annual sales of producers and firms in the agriculture and food system receiving USG assistance



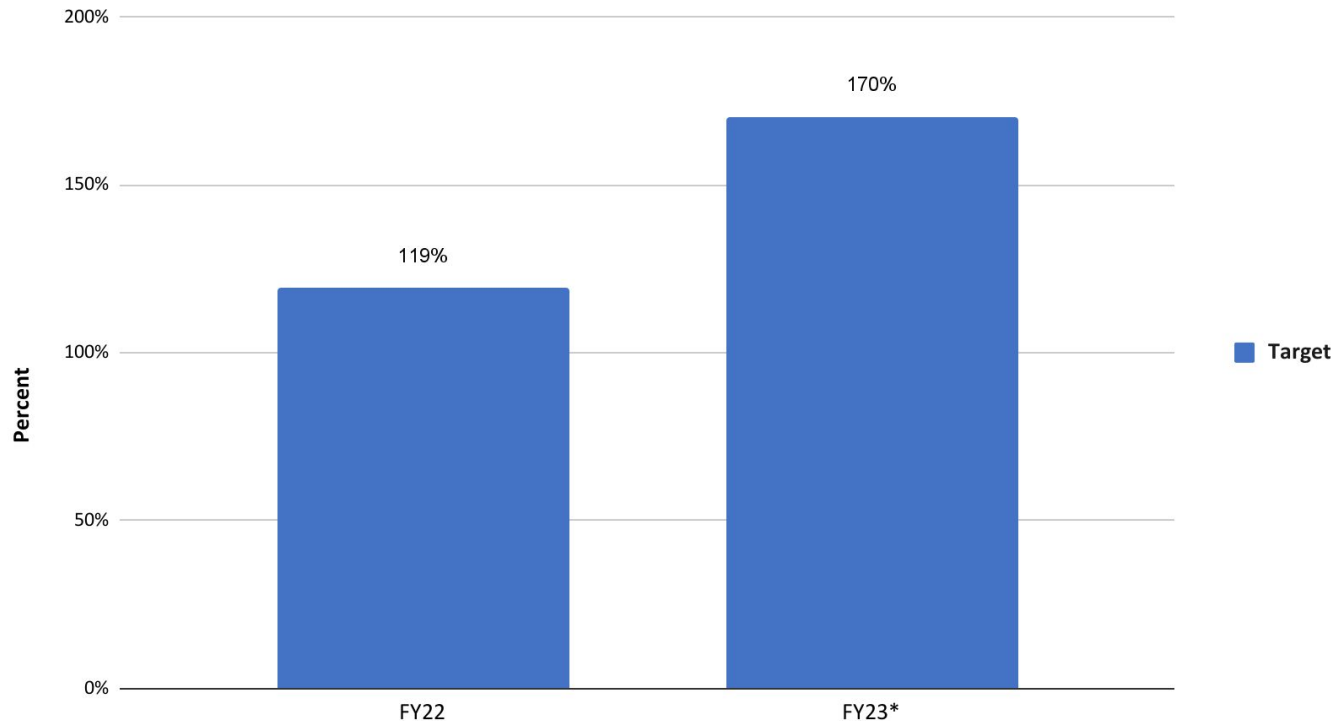
**Note: The FY23 target is preliminary*

*** Final data for annual indicators will be available in Q3 FY 2023*

Rationale: The value (in U.S. dollars) of sales from producers and firms in targeted markets that receive USG assistance is a proxy measure of the competitiveness of those actors. This measurement also helps track strengthened and expanded access to markets and progress toward engagement by producers and firms throughout the value-chain. Strengthened and expanded access to markets is essential to achieving inclusive, sustainable, agriculture-led economic growth, which, in turn, will reduce poverty and thus achieve the goal.

Key indicators

Value of financing accessed by females as a percentage of financing accessed by males

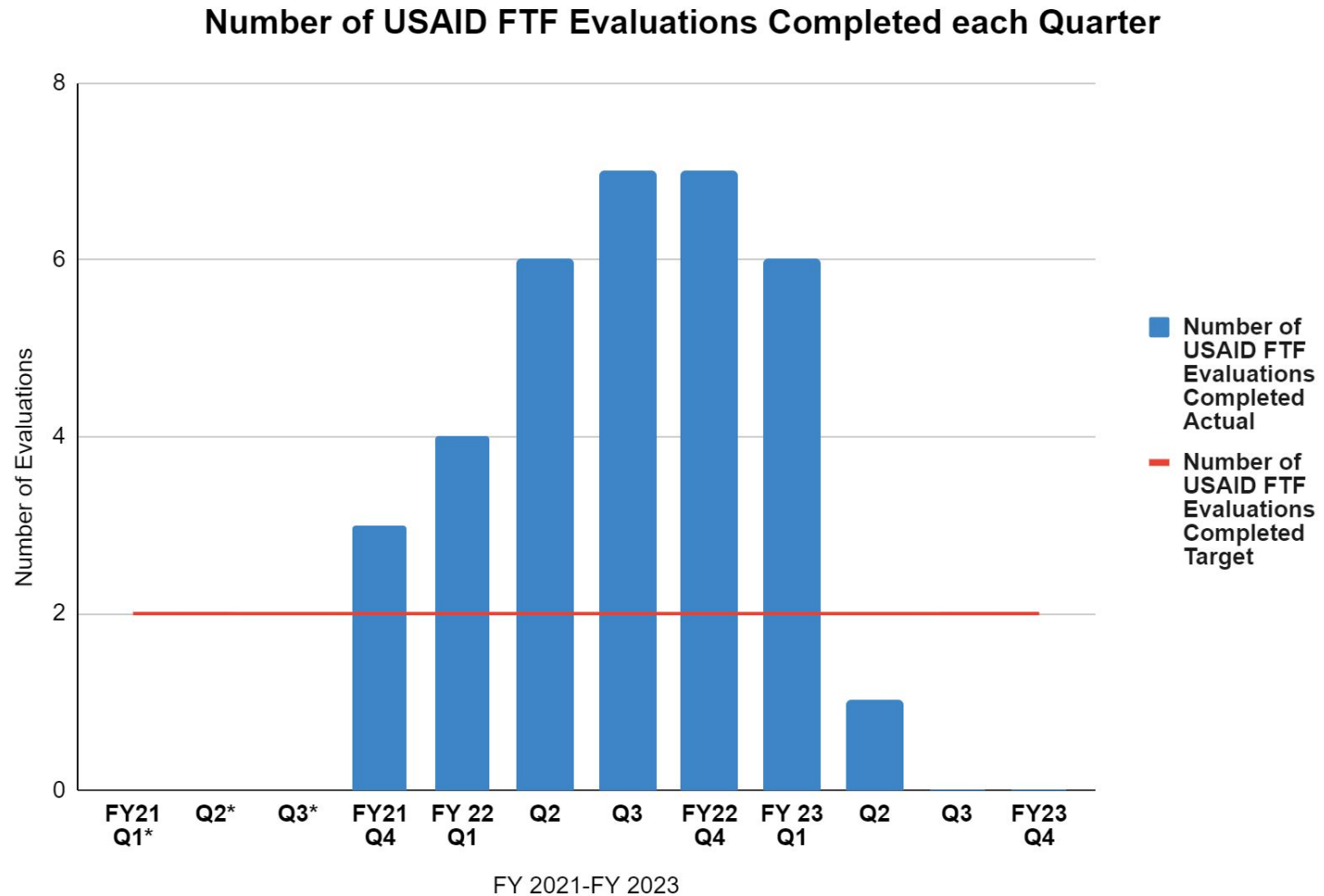


**Note: The FY23 target is preliminary.*

*** Final data for annual indicators will be available in Q3 FY 2023 .*

Rationale: This indicator sums the total U.S. dollar value of debt (both cash and in-kind loans) and non-debt financing, such as equity financing, disbursed during the reporting year as a result of USG-assistance to producers (individual farmers, fishers, cooperatives, etc.), input suppliers, transporters, processors, other Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and larger enterprises that are in a targeted agricultural value chain and are participating in a USG-funded activity. USG assistance may consist of technical assistance, insurance coverage, guarantee provision, or other capacity-building and market-strengthening activities to producers, organizations and enterprises. The indicator counts the value of non-debt financing and both cash and non-cash lending disbursed to the participant, not financing merely committed (e.g., loans in process, but not yet available to the participant). Values greater than 100% mean that females are accessing more than \$1 for every \$1 of financing accessed by males as a result of Feed the Future.

Key indicators



**Note: In FY21, reporting for this indicator paused due to the change in Administrations.*

Rationale: This indicator tracks the number of FTF evaluations uploaded to the DEC each quarter.

Key milestones

Milestone Summary

Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Change from Last Quarter	Owner	Comments
FTF Target Country Selection Indicators Finalized and Consultations Completed	Q1 FY22	Completed	Completed	RFS/PO	
FTF Target Countries Tentatively Selected/Approved by FTF Interagency Community	Q2 FY22	Completed	Completed	RFS/PO	USAID selected the following new FTF target countries: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia. The FTF Interagency Community approved the selection.
FTF Activity Design Guidance Consultations Completed	Q2 FY22	Completed	Completed	RFS/PAE	USAID changed the name of the FTF Technical Guidance, to the FTF Activity Design Guidance.
FTF Target Countries Approved by NSC and Announced Publicly	Q3 FY22	Completed	Completed	RFS/PO	National Security Council approved the eight new FTF target counties. In June 2022, USAID officially announced the selection.
FTF Target Country Plan Guidance Finalized	Q3 FY22	Completed	Estimated completion, FY23 Q1	RFS/OCS	USAID finalized the Country Plan Guidance and rolled it out to new and existing target countries and the FTF interagency during the first week of October 2022.
Evidence Gap Maps (EGMs) Finalized	Q4 FY22	Delayed	Estimated completion, FY23 Q3	RFS/PAE	USAID finalized two (Resilience and Water Security, Sanitation and Hygiene) EGMs and is finalizing the remaining two (Agriculture-led Growth and Nutrition) in Q3 FY23.
FTF Target Country Plans Updated/Finalized	Q1 FY23	Delayed	Expected completion, FY23 Q4	RFS/OCS	USAID will complete this milestone in Q4 FY23, as opposed to Q1 FY23, to allow Missions to focus on programming supplemental funding in Q1 FY23 and provide time for missions to apply the October 2022 Country Plan Guidance.
FTF Activity Design Guidance Updated	Q2 FY23	Completed		RFS/PAE	All Activity Design Guidance documents written, cleared and posted.
Pilot influence and leverage measurement completed as well as a formative evaluation involving case studies	Q2 FY24	On track		RFS/PAE RFS/PO	A formative evaluation to conduct case studies to better understand Feed the Future's influence and leverage pathways and to develop a set of metrics and instruments and methodologies to measure them that can be used more widely. The study will also pilot the instruments and methodologies prior to finalizing them. This new set of instruments will allow RFS to measure the extent to which we are catalyzing change in the FtF portfolio.
At least one bureau-wide pause and reflect events to consider new evidence completed	Q4 FY23	Ahead of schedule	Expected completion FY23 Q3	RFS/PAE	USAID/RFS had Pause and Reflect presentations end of March 2023. Discussion and decisions on evidence and proposed actions from presentations planned for April 2023

Narrative – FY 23 Q2

In FY23 Q2, USAID met half of the target for the number of FTF evaluations. Given our historical performance, we believe we will be able to meet our target in the next quarter.

This indicator tracks the number of evaluations a Mission or partner uploads to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) within the quarter time frame.

In FY22 Q4, USAID completed evidence gap maps for the Resilience and Water Security, Sanitation and Hygiene program areas. USAID planned to finalize the remaining two (Agriculture-led Growth and Nutrition) in FY23 Q1. However, the original mechanism supporting the work ended and USAID took longer than expected to put in place the required support through another mechanism, which will delay completion of the remaining two maps until FY23 Q3.

In FY23 Q2, USAID updated all FTF Activity Design Guidance. All Activity Design Guidance documents are written, cleared, and posted. Several evaluation briefs, which make findings from full evaluation reports more accessible and actionable for a broader audience, were uploaded to the DEC during FY23 Q2 - though these do not count for the metric since the full reports were previously entered into the DEC.

USAID/RFS had Pause and Reflect presentations to consider new evidence at the end of FY23 Q2. Further discussion and decisions on evidence and proposed actions is planned for April 2023. This is expected to be completed ahead of schedule, in FY23 Q3.

Final data for annual indicators will be available in FY23 Q3.

Data accuracy & reliability

USAID collects data to support annual indicators for the APG on Resilience and Food Security from all Feed the Future (FTF) countries and U.S. Government (USG) interagency partners, to the extent they select to use key measures and report their data, and capture results within and outside the Zones of Influence (ZOI). The Agency compiles them in the Development Information Solution (DIS), and updates them annually.

FTF reporting in DIS is part of an interagency effort to consolidate USG reporting on FTF activities. Twelve USG agencies work together on food security efforts for FTF and seven of those agencies contribute indicator data to DIS, including USAID, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Peace Corps, the U.S. African Development Foundation, the Inter-American Foundation, and the Department of Treasury for reporting from our multilateral partners, Global Agriculture and Food Security Program and International Fund for Agricultural Development.

FTF verifies performance data using Data-Quality Assessments (DQAs), and the data must meet standards of validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness. Each USAID Operating Unit must document the methodology used to conduct the DQAs. DQA and data-source records are maintained in the Performance Management Plans, as described in USAID's Automated Directive System (ADS) Chapter 201.3.5.7, <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/201.pdf>).

To ensure the quality of data, USAID works closely with the USG interagency and our implementing partners to review and validate. While preliminary data on APG annual indicators actuals for the previous fiscal year and updated targets are available by December of that calendar year, to ensure data quality, USAID does not report on APG annual indicators until final cleaned data are available in April of the next calendar year.

Data limitations

Only values reported against the ‘male’ and ‘female’ sex disaggregate under EG.3.2-27 are used to calculate the APG indicator “*Average value per capita of agriculture-related financing received by females as a percentage of the value per capita of agriculture-related financing received by males as a result of USG assistance*”. However, in addition to male and female sex disaggregate options, ‘mixed’ and ‘disaggregates not available’ (DNA) are also disaggregation options for EG.3.2-27. For example, if there is more than one proprietor, and if proprietors are a mix of females and males, the ‘mixed’ disaggregate is used. In certain cases, the proportion of ‘mixed’ and DNA may be large, and female and male disaggregates may consequently comprise a small proportion of the total value of financing accessed. A small number of mechanisms / countries usually drives the proportion of results that are not disaggregated. USAID is implementing several actions to decrease the proportion of non-disaggregated results reported under the indicator, including increased emphasis on these requirements in the annual training sessions with Implementing Partners (IPs) and USAID staff on FTF reporting, clearly including a step for our RFS/Office of Country Support to look for these disaggregates in our annual review of FTF reporting, and running reports to identify FTF activities with high levels of non-disaggregated results and following up with those IPs and Missions directly during our annual review.

EG.3.2-27 counts debt and non-debt financing, and sex disaggregates are layered under each type of financing accessed. Therefore, although rare, females and males may be double-counted if they accessed both debt and non-debt financing.

Additional information

Contributing Programs

Contributing programs to the Food Security and Resilience APG include a range of efforts from across the USG in support of the Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) 2022-2026, see Annex 1: Agency-specific Implementation Plans of the GFSS

(https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Global-Food-Security-Strategy-FY22-26_508C.pdf)

Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations

Congress supported USG food security efforts by enacting the Global Food Security Act of 2016. The Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022 reauthorized food security appropriations through FY 2028. The process to develop the USG's GFSS included external consultations with non-governmental, U.S. universities, and private-sector stakeholders. USAID, with its interagency partners, continues to engage with Congress and other stakeholders on the implementation of the GFSS. In FY22 and beyond, this will include the completion of country plans for FTF target countries; the further development of stakeholder-collaboration platforms; and refinement of the monitoring, evaluation, and learning approach to track progress and facilitate the sharing of learning and best practices. The development of the plans will be led by interagency teams at Post who will be asked to consult widely with their host country counterparts, civil society, private sector actors. Following from the updated GFSS, the plans will include a focus on marginalized and underrepresented groups and they will be engaged in the consultation process as appropriate.